

AMENDED CLAIM SET:

1. (previously presented) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate, comprising:  
reacting glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate and acetaldehyde, in the presence of either a microorganism which itself contains 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase but substantially no phosphatase or the enzyme derived from the microorganism.

2. (previously presented) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate, comprising:  
reacting dihydroxyacetone phosphate and acetaldehyde, in the presence of either a microorganism which itself contains 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase and triose-phosphate isomerase but substantially no phosphatase or the enzymes derived from the microorganism.

3. (previously presented) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 1, wherein said microorganism is a microorganism which belongs to the family Enterobacteriaceae.

4. (currently amended) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 2, wherein said microorganism is a microorganism which belongs to the family Enterobacteriaceae.

5. (previously presented) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate, comprising:  
reacting glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate and acetaldehyde, in the presence of either a

microorganism which itself contains belongs to the genus *Klebsiella* and contains 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase or the enzyme derived from the microorganism.

6. (previously presented) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate, comprising:  
reacting dihydroxyacetone phosphate and acetaldehyde, in the presence of either a microorganism which itself contains belongs to the genus *Klebsiella* and contains 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase and triose-phosphate isomerase or the enzymes derived from the microorganism.

7. (original) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 1, wherein said microorganism is *Klebsiella pneumoniae* B 44 (IFO 16579).

8. (original) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 3, wherein said microorganism is *Klebsiella pneumoniae* B 44 (IFO 16579).

9. (original) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 5, wherein said microorganism is *Klebsiella pneumoniae* B 44 (IFO 16579).

10. (original) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 2, wherein said microorganism is *Klebsiella pneumoniae* B 44 (IFO 16579).

11. (original) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 4,

wherein said microorganism is *Klebsiella pneumoniae* B 44 (IFO 16579).

12. (original) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate according to claim 6, wherein said microorganism is *Klebsiella pneumoniae* B 44 (IFO 16579).

13. (original) *Klebsiella pneumoniae* B 44 (IFO 16579), which is capable of producing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase and triose-phosphate isomerase but substantially no phosphatase.

14. (new) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate, comprising:

reacting glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate and acetaldehyde in the presence of the microorganism of claim 13 which contains 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase or in the presence of 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase derived from a microorganism of claim 13.

15. (new) A method of preparing 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate, comprising:

reacting dihydroxyacetone phosphate and acetaldehyde in the presence of the microorganism of claim 13 which contains 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase and triose-phosphate isomerase or in the presence of 2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase and triose-phosphate isomerase derived from a microorganism of claim 13.